20. Shri Neeraj Prasad, Deputy Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India.

21. Smt. Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva.

22. Shri Nikhil Seth, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, New York.

23. Shri Anthony De Sa, Deputy Secretary to the Minister of Environment and Forests.

24. Mrs. Shobha Ranade, National President, All India Women's Conference.

25. Mrs. Lalitha Balakrishnan, Member, Standing Committee of N.G.Os. on NWDB.

26. Mr. Gautham Vohra, DRAG. Bombay.

27. Mr. S. Narendran, Student of Loyola College, Madras University, Madras (Member of AIESEC).

28. Shri S.K. Sharma, Chandigarh Environment Society, Chandigarh.

29. Prof. Hemlata Swarup, Director, All India Women's Studies and Development Organisation.

30. Shri Sriram Dash, Jana Seva Parisad, Kendarapara, Orissa.

31. Shri G.S. Randhawa, Information Officer, Ministry of Environment and Forests.

32. Shri Kalyan Patra, Environmental Journalist.

33. Dr. Basant Singh, Associative Professor of Geography University of Rajashtan.

Signatories to Bio-diversity Convention

1300. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and several other countries have signed the bio-diversity convention at Rio-Janeiro during the UNCED in June this year;

(b) if so, the other countries which have signed the Convention; and

(c) what were the main concerns of the United States and other developed countries in signing the treaty and what was the outcome of the disscussions held to resolve the issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) to (c) 157 countries, including India, signed the Convention on Biological Diversity at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held at Rio De Janeiro in June 1992. The list of signatories is given in the statement. (*See* below). The United States of America did not sign the Convention on Biological Diversity at Rio de Janeiro and expressed the view that the agreement threatens to retard bio-technology and undermine the protection of ideas and unlike the claimate agreement, its financing scheme would not work.

Statement

List of countires which signed the convention on Biological diversity at RIO-DE-JANEIR O

Afghanistan

Algeria

Angola

Antigue and Barbuda

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Bahamas

Bahrain

Bangladesh

Barbados

Belarus

Belgium
Belize
Benin
Bhutan
Bolivia
Botswwana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Catral African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
Comoros
Congo
Cook Islands
Costa Rica
Cote Ivoire
Croatia
Cuba
Cyprus
Democratic People s Republic of Korea
Denmark
Djibouti
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salavador
Equatirial Guinea
European Economic Community
Ethiopia
Finland
France
Gabon
Gambia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Gautemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Guyana
Haiti
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Ireland
Israel
Ittay
Jamaica
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kuwait
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Li chtenstein
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Madagaskar
Malawi
Malaysia

Maldives
Malta
Marshall Islands
Mauritania
Mauritius
Mexico
Micro-Nesia (Federated States)
Monace
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Myanmar
Namibia
Nauru
Nepal
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Norway
Oman
Pakistan
Panama
Papua New Guinea
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portgual
Oatar
Republic of Korea
Republic of Moldova
Romania
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Saint Kitts and Nevis
Somoa
San Marino
Sao Tome and principe
Sonoqal
Sechelles
Slovenia
Solomon Islands
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Surinam
Swaziland
Sweden
Switzerland
Thailand
Togo
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
Turkey
Tuvalu
Uganda
Ukraine
United Arab Emirates
United Kingdom of Great-Britain and Northern Ireland
United Republic of Tanzania
Uruguey
Vanuatu
Venezuela
Yeman
Yugoslavia
Zaire
Zambia
Zimbabwe